

February 26 2021

# Noticias y Notas

News and notes from the Second Judicial District Court

## Moving and shaking in the courthouse

Get ready for a lot of moving and shaking in the downtown courthouse. Starting next week there will be a lot of moving, a fair amount of shaking, and maybe even a bit of rocking and rolling going on at the downtown location of the Second Judicial District Court. When it's all over—in roughly 18 months—a lot of people are going to have nice new workplaces, some in completely new locations.

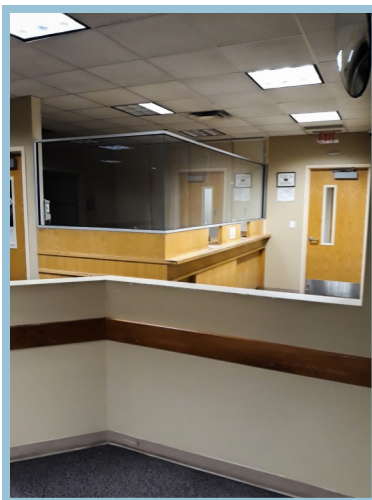
There also will be a new courtroom on the third floor.

That will be the result of what Deputy Court Executive Officer Danny Smith calls a two-phase construction project that kicks off on Monday, March 1. While Danny says this is one project with two phases, both phases consist of several small projects, each with its own set of multiple moving parts.

As Danny describes it, phase one consists of multiple projects of the first floor of the courthouse and one the second floor. Plans for the first floor alone call for:

- A new home for the Pre-Trial Services Division
- New offices for the Court Reporters and Monitors Division
- A revamp of the Jury Room
- A new Grand Jury Space
- An upgraded space for the Center for Self-Help
- New workspaces for the Criminal and Civil Court Clerks
- A new home for Adult Drug Court.

The second floor will see a redesign of the Domestic Violence Division.



The second-floor Domestic Violence area revamp will make the staff's workplace more comfortable and secure.

"A lot of this work is to allow all of the people in a single department to be together in one location," Danny said. "For instance, a lot of the Pre-Trial Services staff is in the Bernalillo County Public Safety Building. We will be able to get them all out of that building and bring them back to the courthouse.

"The court reporters and monitors also are scattered around the building a bit. With the new area we're building for them, they can all be together in a single location."

Making all this happen required intense and detailed planning on the part of Danny and his staff. It also is going to require some of the staff in these affected areas to operate out of temporary locations until their permanent spaces are complete.

*For the rest of the story, [click here.](#)*



## Shout outs



This is the space where we sound the horn for outstanding performances.

This week's shout out goes to the **Lisa Schatz-Vance, Attorney in Administration.**

We are somewhat late in recognizing this accomplishment, but we want to congratulate Lisa for submitting the winning design in the New Mexico Judiciary's COVID safety button contest. Lisa's design incorporating the Road Runner and encouraging people to maintain six feet of distance is indeed a winner. We say, again,

**Congrats, Lisa !**

# Take the challenge

With the calendar set to turn to March, Spring is not far behind. That means it's time to get outdoors and get some exercise—which is something that can still be done safely. If you need incentive to start that program, sign up for the Second Judicial District Court's Virtual 5k Challenge. This is a completely virtual event, which means you can complete anywhere you would like. When you're done, you simply report your time to let us know how you did.



Why should you take this challenge? Here are three reasons:

- ◆ It will be fun
- ◆ All finishers will be entered into a drawing for prizes
- ◆ You might get in shape or find a new hobby.
- ◆ You might find a new hobby.
- ◆ We have created a web site where you can get weekly training tips.
- ◆ That site also will allow you to upload photos and stories about your training to share with other race participants.

So, here is how the challenge will work. Registration opens today, but the race doesn't kickoff until Friday, April 2. That gives you a full 10 weeks to train. That's long enough to comfortably complete a 5k, even if you have done nothing but sit on the couch all winter. So, go to the site, download the first training article and get ready to start this journey. There will be an article with new training tips each week. Check back and while you're there, share your training photos and stories. You can register anytime between now and April 2, but why not commit early to give yourself extra incentive to start your training?

For those who are unable to run, there also is an option to walk—and you can still take advantage of the training tips and post your photos and stories along the way.

Once the race opens, you will have two weeks to complete the 5k, and post your time. Shortly after, we will hold the prize drawings for everyone who has completed the challenge. But remember this: you will be a winner if you just take the challenge.

Click [Here](#) to Find The SJDC 5K Challenge Website